

JAN 02 1997

The Honorable Don Parkinson Speaker Twenty-Third Guam Legislature Guam Legislature Temporary Building 155 Hesler Street Agana, Guam 96910

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Enclosed please find a copy of Bill No. 542 (LS), "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT TO JUDGMENTS OF PATERNITY", which I have signed into law today as Public Law No. 23-139.

This legislation is necessary to bring Guam into conformance with federal requirements relative to the national child support enforcement system.

Science has now developed very reliable testing to match a child with the child's biological parents. This legislation brings our local laws into conformity with scientific test results, allowing these test results the legal proof basis that they have been proven to deliver in the realm of science. This allows parents to more easily establish paternity so that all children may be afforded the support of their parents, to which they are entitled.

A copy has also been delivered to the Office of the Legislative Secretary.

Very truly yours,

Carl T. C. Gutierrez Governor of Guam

Attachment 231633



JAN 02 1997

The Honorable Hope A. Cristobal
Acting Legislative Secretary
Twenty-Third Guam Legislature
Guam Legislature Temporary Building
155 Hesler Street
Agana, Guam 96910

1	E LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY
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Received By	Melefi
Time	1/2/07
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Dear Madame Legislative Secretary:

Enclosed please find a copy of Governor's message and copy of Bill No. 542 (LS), "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT TO JUDGMENTS OF PATERNITY", which I have **signed** into law today as **Public Law No. 23-139.** 

Governor's message and copy of the public law have been delivered to the Office of the Speaker.

Very truly yours,

Carl T. C. Gutierrez Governor of Guam

Attachments

231623

231633

# TWENTY-THIRD GUAM LEGISLATURE 1996 (SECOND) Regular Session

### CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO THE GOVERNOR

This is to certify that Bill No. 542 (LS), "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT TO JUDGMENTS OF PATERNITY," was on the 23rd day of December, 1996, duly and regularly passed.

	Derk
	DON PARKINSON
Attested:	Speaker
Senator and Legislative Secretary, Act	ing
This Act was received by the Governor to 1996, at o'clockM.	his 23 day of December,
	Assistant Staff Officer
A DDD OVED	Governor's Office
APPROVED:	
CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ	
Governor of Guam	
Date: 1-2-97	
Public Law No. 23 - 139	

# TWENTY-THIRD GUAM LEGISLATURE 1996 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 542 (LS)

Introduced by:

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T. S. Nelson

By request of the Governor in accordance with the Organic Act of Guam

AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT TO JUDGMENTS OF PATERNITY.

#### BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY OF GUAM:

**Section 1.** §34119 of Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, is repealed and reenacted to read:

"§34119. Trial of paternity and standard of proof. (a) When the paternity of a child born out of wedlock is disputed, the determination of paternity shall be made by the court without a jury. The trial shall be a civil trial and there shall be no right to a jury trial on the sole issue of paternity. The standard of proof shall be clear and convincing evidence.

(b) When the paternity of a child is disputed, all parties in the contested paternity matter including the child shall be ordered by the court to submit to a genetic test upon the request of any party to the action, upon reasonable terms and conditions. The Judicial Council shall promulgate rules of evidence as to the admissibility of reports of test results, which rules shall provide circumstances under which

reports of test results may be admitted without the necessity of calling expert witnesses from off-island while providing criteria to insure the accuracy of tests and the procedures surrounding them.

- (c) Any objection to genetic testing results must be made in writing and submitted to the court at least two (2) days prior to any hearing at which such results are introduced into evidence. If no objection is made, a written report of the test results is admissible as evidence of paternity without the need for foundation testimony or other proof of authenticity or accuracy.
- (d) If the results show that the putative father is not excluded and that the probability of the putative father's paternity is ninety-five percent (95%) or higher, there shall be a conclusive presumption that the putative father is the biological father, and the evidence shall be sufficient as a basis for a judicial determination of paternity.
- (e) In any proceeding such as, but not limited to, divorce, where paternity is disavowed or parental rights are requested to be terminated, notice shall be given by the plaintiff to the Department of Law of its right to intervene in the best interest of the children of Guam."

Section 2. §34119.1 of Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, is added to read:

"§34119.1 Judgment of Paternity. Full faith and credit. Any judgment of paternity, whether established through a voluntary acknowledgment process, or established by a court or administrative entity of this territory, or any other state or jurisdiction, is entitled to full faith and credit in this territory."





Date: 12/23/96

### **VOTING SHEET**

Bill No. <u>542</u>
Resolution No.
Question:

NAME	YEAS	NAYS	NOT VOTING/ ABSTAINED	ABSENT/ OUT DURING ROLL CALL
ADA, Thomas C.	V			
AGUON, John P.				
BARRETT-ANDERSON, Elizabeth	1			
BLAZ, Anthony C.	<i>V</i>			
BROWN, Joanne S. /				
CAMACHO, Felix P.	V			
CHARFAUROS, Mark C	V			
CRISTOBAL, Hope A.	V			
FORBES, MARK				1
LAMORENA, Alberto C., V	~			
LEON GUERRERO, Carlotta	w l			
LEON GUERRERO, Lou	1			
NELSON, Ted S.				
ORSINI, Sonny L.	1			
PANGELINAN, Vicente C	1			
PARKINSON, Don	اسا			
SAN AGUSTIN, Joe T.				
SANTOS, Angel L. G.	V			
SANTOS, Francis E.	-			
UNPINGCO, Antonio R.	-			
WONPAT-BORJA, Judith				

TOTAL	19	0	 2
CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:			

Recording Secretary

# 23/39

# Senator Mark C. Charfauros

#### Chairman

#### Committee on Judiciary, Criminal Justice, and Environmental Affairs Twenty-Third Guam Legislature

Ada's Commercial and Professional Center 138 East Marine Drive, Suite 101C-Annex Agana, Guam 96910

Tel: (671) 472-3342/3/5 Fax: (671) 472-3440 E-Mail:markchar@uog9.uog.edu

November 25, 1996

SPEAKER DON PARKINSON Twenty-Third Guam Legislature 155 Hesler St. Agana, Guam 96910

Dear Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Judiciary, Criminal Justice and Environmental Affairs, to which was referred **Bill No. 542**, wishes to report back to the Legislature with its recommendation **TO DO PASS Bill No. 542** "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT TO JUDGEMENTS OF PATERNITY."

The voting record is as follows:

TO PASS 9

NOT TO PASS 0

ABSTAIN 0

TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE 0

Copies of the Committee Report and other pertinent documents are attached.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Attachments.

MARK C. CHARFAUROS

# Senaor Mark C. Charfaros

#### Chairman

#### Committee on Judiciary, Criminal Justice, and Environmental Affairs Twenty-Third Guam Legislature

Ada's Commercial and Professional Center 138 East Marine Drive, Suite 101C-Annex Agana, Guam 96910

Tel: (671) 472-3342/3/5 Fax: (671) 472-3440 E-Mail: markchar@uog9.uog.edu

September 19, 1996

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Members

FROM:

Chairman

SUBJECT: Committee Report - Bill No. 542, "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FATH AND CREDIT TO JUDGEMENTS OF PATERNITY."

Transmitted herewith for your information and action is the Committee on Judiciary, Criminal Justice and Environment Affairs' Report on the subject Bill.

The narrative report is accompanied by the following:

- 1. Original Bill No. 542;
- 2. Committee voting sheet;
- 3. Testimony and sign-in sheet;
- 4. Public hearing notice.

Should you have any questions on the narrative report or the accompanying documents, I would be most happy to answer any of them.

Please take the appropriate action on the attached voting sheet and return the documents to my office for transmittal to the other members.

Your attention and cooperation on this matter is greatly appreciated.

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MARK C. CHARFAUKOS

Attachments.

# COMMITTE ON JUDICIARY, CRIMINAL STICE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

# 23rd Guam Legislature VOTING RECORD

**Bill No. 542** "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FATH AND CREDIT TO JUDGEMENTS OF PATERNITY."

	TO <u>PASS</u>	NOT TO <u>PASS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	INACTIVE <u>FILE</u>
MARK C. CHARFAUROS, Chairman	1			
JUDITH WONPAT-BORJA, Vice-Chairperson			-	
THOMAS CADA, Member				
ELIZABETH BARRETT-ANDERSON, Member	<u> </u>	/		<u></u>
JOANNE BROWN, Member		***************************************		
ANTHONY C. BLAZ, Member	······		***************************************	
HOPE CRISTOBAL, Member				
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A. TONY LAMORENA, Member  LOU LEON GUERRERO, Member				
TED S. NELSON, Member				
VICENTE C. PANGELINAN, Member				
ANGEL L.G. SANTOS, Member				
FELIX P. CAMACHO, Member				
DON PARKINSON, Ex-Officio Member				····

# COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Twenty-Third Guam Legislature

# COMMITTEE REPORT ON BILL NO. 542

"AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT TO JUDGEMENTS OF PATERNITY."

#### I. OVERVIEW

The Committee on Judiciary, Criminal Justice and Environmental Affairs scheduled a public hearing on **August 12, 1996**, at 9:30 a.m. at the Legislative Public Hearing Room. Public notice was announced on the August 8, 1996 issue of the Pacific Daily News.

Members present were:

Senator Mark C. Charfauros, Chairman Senator Ted Nelson Senator Joanne Brown

Appearing before the Committee to testify on the Bill were:

Margaret E. Bean, Deputy Attorney General, oral, written. Aileen Muna, oral.

#### II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Margaret E. Bean, Deputy Attorney General, testified in support of Bill 542, oral; written; attached.

**Aileen Muna** testified and inquired about the testing methods and procedures for paternity questions. **Bean** responded that their office is up to date with the latest in testing methods and procedures.

### III. FINDINGS AND RICOMMENDATION

The Committee finds that Bill 542 will enable the territory of Guam to meet several federal requirements regarding the process of paternity cases. Specifically, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 requires states and territories to adopt a variety of procedures designed to streamline the paternity establishment process. These include a presumption of paternity based on genetic test results, conditions for admission of genetic test results as evidence and expedited decision-making processes for IV-D paternity cases. The Committee finds that the passage of Bill 542 is needed to avoid any loss of federal funds and will

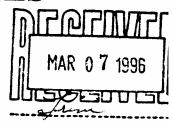
Accordingly, the Committee on Judiciary, Criminal Justice and Environmental Affairs, to which was referred **Bill No. 542**, does hereby submit its findings and recommendation to the Twenty-Third Guam Legislature **TO DO PASS Bill No. 542** "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT TO JUDGEMENTS OF PATERNITY."

improve the ability of the territory to establish paternity for the children of Guam.





Twenty-Third Guam Legislature 155 Hesler St., Agana, Guam 96910



March 6, 1996

### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Chairman,

Committee on Judiciary, Criminal Justice

and Environmental Affairs

FROM:

Chairman, Committee on Rules

SUBJECT: Referral - Bill No. 542

The above Bill is referred to your Committee as the principal committee. Please note that the referral is subject to ratification by the Committee on Rules at its next meeting. It is recommended you schedule a public hearing at your earliest convenience.

SOMNY LUJAN ORSINI

Attachment:

FEB 2 8 1996

# TWENTY-THIRD GUAM LEGISLATURE 1996 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. <u>542</u>((S)

Introduced by:

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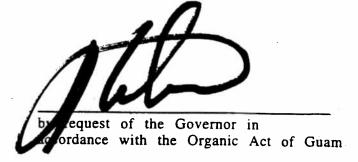
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AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT TO JUDGMENTS OF PATERNITY.

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY OF GUAM:

Section 1. §34119 of Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, is repealed and reenacted to read:

"§34119. Trial of paternity and standard of proof. (a) When the paternity of a child born out of wedlock is disputed, the determination of paternity shall be made by the court without a jury. The trial shall be a civil trial and there shall be no right to a jury trial on the sole issue of paternity. The standard of proof shall be clear and convincing evidence.

(b) When the paternity of a child is disputed, all parties in the contested paternity matter including the child shall be ordered by the court to submit to a genetic test upon the request of any party to the action, upon reasonable terms and conditions. The Judicial Council shall promulgate rules of evidence as to the admissibility of reports of test results, which rules shall provide circumstances under which reports of

test results can be admitted without the necessity of calling expert witnesses from off-island while providing criteria to insure the accuracy of tests and the procedures surrounding the tests.

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- (c) Any objection to genetic testing results must be made in writing and submitted to the court at least Two (2) days prior to any hearing at which such results are introduced into evidence. If no objection is made, a written report of the test results is admissible as evidence of paternity without the need for foundation testimony or other proof of authenticity or accuracy.
- (d) If the results show that the putative father is not excluded and that the probability of the putative father's paternity is Ninety-Five Percent (95%) or higher, there shall be a conclusive presumption that the putative father is the biological father and the evidence shall be sufficient as a basis for a judicial determination of paternity.
- (e) In any proceeding such as, but not limited to, divorce, where paternity is disavowed or parental rights are requested to be terminated, notice shall be given by the plaintiff to the Department of Law of its right to intervene in the best interest of the children of Guam."

Section 2. §34119.1 of Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, is added to read:

"§34119.1. Judgment of Paternity. Full faith and credit.

Any judgment of paternity, whether established through a voluntary acknowledgment process, or established by a court or administrative entity of this territory, or any other state or jurisdiction, is entitled to full faith and credit in this territory."

Calvin E. Holloway, Sr. Hinirat Abugao Attorney General



#### Ufisinan Hiniråt Abugao Tiritorian Guahån



Margaret E. Bean Sigundo Hinirat Abugao Deputy Attorney General

Dibision Familia Family Division

#### Gus F. Diaz Atkádi, Sigundo Hinirát Abugao Chief Deputy Attorney General

Office of the Attorney General Territory of Guam

August 7, 1996

Honorable Senator Mark C. Charfauros Chairman, Committee of Judiciary, Criminal Justice, and Environmental Affairs Twenty-Third Guam Legislature Ada's Commercial and Professional Center 138 East Marie Drive, Suite 101C-Annex Agana, Guam 96910

Re: Testimony on Bill 542

Dear Senator:

Buenas yan Saluda!

In December, 1994, the Federal Government, Department of Health and Human Services, promulgated regulations to implement the requirements of Section 13721 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (OBRA '93). OBRA requires states and territories to adopt a variety of procedures designed to streamline the paternity establishment process. These include a presumption of paternity based on genetic test results, conditions for admission of genetic test results as evidence and expedited decision-making processes for IV-D paternity cases. If states and territories do not enact the required legislation, financial penalties may be levied.

Bill 542 brings 5 G.C.A. §34119(c), Guam's IV-D program, into compliance with a portion of OBRA requirements. Specifically, 5 G.C.A. §34119(c) has been added, implementing the requirement of 45 CFR 302.70(a)5(v) which requires each territory to have laws which provide that any objection to genetic testing result must be made in writing a specified number of days before any hearing at which such results may be introduced into evidence. Further, that if no objections are made, that the written report of the test results is admissible as evidence of paternity without need for foundation testimony or other proof of authenticity.

5 G.C.A. §34119 (d) has also been added implementing the requirement of 45 CFR 302.70(a)(5)(vi) which requires Guam to have laws which create a rebuttable or, at our option, a conclusive presumption of paternity based on genetic testing results which indicate a threshold probability that the alleged father is the father of the child. We have chosen to make the presumption conclusive, as we believe that the genetic tests are increasingly accurate. We have also chose a 95% threshold, which means that all tests

with results under 95% would not be conclusive, presumed to be the father. This percentage is taken from other states laws.

Section 2 of Bill 542 provides that judgments of paternity of any jurisdiction will be given full faith and credit in Guam. This fulfills the requirements of 45 CFR 302.70(a)(11) which requires states and territories to give full faith and credit to a determination of paternity made by any other state or territory, whether established through voluntary acknowledgment or through administrative or judicial processes. This will improve interstate processing of cases as paternity could not be relitigated.

This bill will bring us into compliance with some of the requirements of the Federal Law and will improve our ability to establish paternity for the children of Guam.

Dångkolo Na Agradesimiento - Thank You Very Much!

Sincerely,

MARGARET E. BEAN Deputy Attorney General



#### Chairman

Committee on Judiciary, Criminal Justice and Environmental Affairs Twenty-Third Guam Legislature

Ada's Commercial & Professional Center 138 East Marine Dr., Suite 101C-Annex Agana, Guam 96910

Tel: (671) 472-3342~3 Fax: (671) 472-3440

## WITNESS SIGN-IN SHEET

Monday, August 12, 1996 9:30 a.m. Public Hearing Room Guam Legislature, Agana

**Bill No. 542,** "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FATH AND CREDIT TO JUDGEMENTS OF PATERNITY."

NAME (please print)  Murgara Bean  Allen Munn	ORGANIZATION Dept of law family DV	ORAL/WRITTEN  Down	FOR/AGAINST

#### Notice of Public Hearing



## Senator Mark C. Charfauros

Chairman, Committee on Judiciary, Criminal Justice & Environmental Affairs Twenty-Third Guam Legislature

#### Agenda

Bill No. 153, as substituted by the author, "AN ACT TO PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR PRISTINE LIMESTONE AND RAVINE FORESTS IN GUAM AND TO AUTHORIZE THE GUAM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO IDENTIFY, RECORD AND DEVELOP A PROTECTION PLAN FOR SUCH FORESTS."

Bill No. 542, "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT TO JUDGE-MENTS OF PATERNITY."

Bill No. 543, "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH RULES AND REGU-LATIONS FOR CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT GUIDELINES TO BE ENFORCED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW." Bill No. 652, "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 26 TO TITLE 9, GCA, RELATING TO SEX OFFENDER REGISTRA-TION, TO PROVIDE THAT THE REGISTRATION REQUIRE-MENT SHALL CONTINUE FOR LIFE WHILE THE PERSON IS RESIDING ON GUAM, TO PROVIDE FOR A PETITION AND HEARING TO EXEMPT A PERSON FROM LIFETIME REGISTRATION, TO PROVIDE THE CONTENTS OF THE PETITION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE GRANTING OF AN EXEMPTION FROM THE REPORTING REQUIREMENT UPON PROOF BY CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE THAT THE PETITIONER IS NOT A RISK TO COMMIT A VIOLENT CRIME OR OTHER SPECIFIED SEX CRIMES." Bill No. 656, "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE GUAM ENVI-RONMENTAL REGULATION COMMISSION BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE 3 TO PART 2 OF TITLE 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED."

Date: Monday, August 12, 1996

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Place: Legislative Public Hearing Room,

155 Hesler St. Agana

The Public is invited to Attend

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# FISCAL NOTE PR 1 8 1998 BBMR-F7 BUREAU OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT RESEARCH

	<u> 544 (LiS)</u>		Date R	Received:	April 4,	1996
Amendatory Bill:	Yes		Date R	Reviewed:	April 10	), 1996
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Total FY Appropriation						
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Change in Law:	Repeals and re	enacts §34119 a	and adds 834119.1	to Title 5	GCA	
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FOOTNOTES: See attached.

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Bill Number 542 (LS) seeks to repeal and reenact §34119 and to act §34119.1 to Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, relative to establishing presumption of putative father and to give full faith and credit to judgements of paternity. This Bill will definitely have a fiscal impact on the various budgets of the Departments affected by this Bill, however, their individual budgets should be able to absorb such an impact.

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#### TWENTY-THIRD GUAM LEGISLATURE 1996 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 542((S)

Introduced by:

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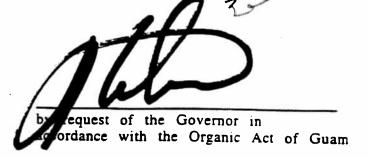
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AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §34119, AND TO ADD §34119.1 TO TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO ESTABLISH PRESUMPTION OF PUTATIVE FATHER AND TO GIVE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT TO JUDGMENTS OF PATERNITY.

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No of Amendment Deletion Withdrawn	Changes	D Pa Mo	ver
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Date 12/16/96	Votes		
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		Recording Secretary	Speaker
	APPROVED AS TO	O FORM PASSED	
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